



## EU BORDER ASSISTANCE MISSION TO MOLDOVA AND UKRAINE

The EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) was launched on 30 November 2005 at the joint request of the Presidents of Moldova and Ukraine. EUBAM is an EU mission fully funded by the European Union. It is an advisory, technical body. It has no executive powers. The Mission is seeking to make a sustainable contribution to the delivery of good quality border and customs services to the citizens and companies of Moldova and Ukraine to facilitate contacts and trade.



The Mission's aims are to work with Moldova and Ukraine to harmonise their border management standards and procedures with those prevalent in EU Member States; help enhance the professional capacities of the Moldovan and Ukrainian customs and border guard services at operational level; improve cooperation between the border guard and customs services and with other law enforcement agencies; provide contribution to the settlement of the Transnistrian conflict.

The Mission's mandate was extended twice – in 2007 and 2009. According to the latest agreement between the EU, the Governments of Moldova and Ukraine the Mission was prolonged until 30 November 2011. UNDP is the Mission's implementing partner, providing administrative and logistical support.

The Mission has its headquarters in Odesa, and currently has six field offices (3 on the Moldovan side, 3 on the Ukrainian side). EUBAM is comprised of 226 staff members including 114 international and 112 local staff. 22 EU Member States are represented in the Mission.

## EUBAM OVERVIEWS THE ACHIEVED RESULTS AND PLANS THE NEW PHASE

On 16 November in Odesa the EU Border Assistance Mission to Moldova and Ukraine (EUBAM) reviewed the activity during its 13th Advisory Board. The Heads of the EC Delegations to Ukraine and Moldova José Manuel Pinto Teixeira and Dirk Schuebel, EUBAM staff, as well as partners from Moldovan and Ukrainian border management services, law enforcement agencies, and government institutions took part in the event.



The Advisory Board reviewed the EUBAM Activity Report for March-September 2009. The Board also highlighted activities that have contributed to enhancing the effectiveness of border guard and customs controls, capacity building activities, enforcement measures, targeted monitoring actions, the intensification of information exchange, the implementation of joint border control operations, common analytical work, and public communication activities.

The Advisory Board endorsed the findings and recommendations on Targeted Monitoring Actions (TMA) aimed at assessing the application of EU standards in border management and customs procedures in Moldova and Ukraine. TMAs include evaluation of border control at border control points and the Odesa sea port, surveillance of the "green" and "blue" border, control processes at the internal/administrative boundary line in Moldova, and all aspects of customs clearance and procedures at inland customs houses, as well as the exchange of pre-arrival information between the two customs services.

The Board also approved the Action Plan of EUBAM for Phase 7 (December 2009-November 2010). It acknowledged the new Internal Strategy of the Mission, as well as the new organisational structure to ensure the implementation of the main priorities of the Mission, especially in capacity building areas.

**More information at:** <http://www.eubam.org/>

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## EU-FUNDED PROJECT NEWS

### UKRAINE ADOPTS EU STANDARDS OF BORDER CONTROL

On 5 November 2009 the Verkhovna Rada of Ukraine adopted the Law "On Border Control", which was drafted, revised and amended by the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine (SBGS) with the active assistance of legal experts of the EU-funded projects "Reinforcing the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine's Human Resources Management System (HUREMAS)" and "Improving Integrated Border Management: Follow-up to Reinforcing the State Border Guard Service of Ukraine's Human Resources Management System (HUREMAS 2)".

This act is an integral part of Ukraine's efforts to establish Schengen-compliant norms and conditions for border crossing and border control procedures. It introduces European standards governing the principles, objectives and methods of border control, risk assessment, and organisation of border crossing points into Ukrainian legislation.

Moreover the new Law allows to facilitate substantially border crossing by Ukrainian citizens, to use special mode of its crossing for foreigners and persons without citizenship, and to combat efficiently illegal migration and other threats of international criminality.

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### STUDY VISIT ON REFUGEE PROTECTION TO THE EUROPEAN UNION

On 9-14 November the EU-funded project "Regional Protection Support Project" organised a visit to the United Kingdom and Finland for representatives of state institutions and civil society from Belarus, Moldova, Russia and Ukraine to study profiling and referral of asylum seekers and migrants at the border as well as NGO-Government co-operation. The visit was held by the UN Refugee Agency and the European Council for Refugees and Exiles for over 20 representatives from Border Guard Services, Ministries of Interior, asylum authorities and NGOs from the four countries.

The study visit aimed at supporting the four countries to develop and implement mechanisms that ensure protection-sensitive entry systems and refugee protection within mixed migration. The visit was also focused on NGO-Government cooperation and the role NGOs have with regard to profiling and referral.

The visit focused on studying established screening and referral systems at the border, familiarising with good practices in the area of mixed migration, combining discussions on international legislation and practice in the UK and Finland, judicial precedents with working group discussions of concrete case examples.

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## TWINNING CONFERENCE BRINGS TOGETHER EASTERN PARTNERSHIP COUNTRIES

On 19 November the EU-funded Twinning Programme Administration Office of Ukraine organised in Kyiv the Third Annual Conference on Twinning Operations. The officials of the European Commission and the EC Delegation to Ukraine, National Contact Points of Azerbaijan, Moldova, Georgia, and Armenia, representatives of the Government and public bodies of Ukraine, Twinning partners and special guests took part in the conference.



The aim of the event was to facilitate the establishing of professional community of civil servants of the countries of EU's Eastern Partnership (EaP) to exchange experience, best practices, success stories and lessons learnt in the field of administrative and institutional reform through the application of Twinning institution building instrument. The discussions were held on various issues of institutional building instruments as Twinning, TAIEX and SIGMA with the aim to exchange experience and increase effectiveness.

The conference of civil servants, experts from the EU member states and neighbouring countries strengthened partnership relations in the EaP region and created a basis for new initiatives in the sphere of the institution building instruments. As a result of the conference, a joint position paper by the participants was developed.

**More information at:** <http://twinning.com.ua/>

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### EU-FUNDED PROJECT ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### 24 NOVEMBER, NATIONAL PEDAGOGICAL UNIVERSITY, ODESA

Tempus Information Day for South Ukraine

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#### 26-27 NOVEMBER, ANTIMONOPOLY COMMITTEE, KYIV

Seminar of the EU-funded project "Harmonisation of Competition and Public Procurement systems in Ukraine with EU standards"

Contact person: Yulia Pecaruk, e-mail: [y.pekaruk@competitionproject.org.ua](mailto:y.pekaruk@competitionproject.org.ua), tel.: (044) 594 64 39

#### 26-28 NOVEMBER, CRIMEA

Visit of the President of EU Committee of Regions Luc Van den Brande to Crimea and Sevastopol

More information at: <http://www.cor.europa.eu>

#### 29 NOVEMBER-6 DECEMBER, POLAND

Mine Safety Study Tour to Poland within the EU-funded "Coal Sector Policy Support Programme"

<http://www.eu-coalsector.com.ua/>

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#### 30 NOVEMBER, HYATT REGENCY HOTEL, KYIV

Final event of the EU-funded project "Consumer Society and Citizen Networks"

More information at: <http://www.undp.org.ua/cscn/>

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